



### Attendance

As you can see from the news below it has been a busy week in school. Please don't forget to browse to the end of our newsletter to see who our Stars of the Week are and for a list of dates. There are also some exciting opportunities offered through our partnership with the National Trust, and other local charities and providers, which you might enjoy - see below.

### Jubilee Pilgrimage and Celebrations Launch

After our celebration Mass last week to mark the start of the Jubilee Year, we have spent some time in our classes this week exploring what our pilgrimage route might look like. The children came up with some wonderful ideas for places/organisations, in our local community that are special to us or that support the life of our school, that could be places to be visited on our Pilgrimage. We will share more about this in the coming weeks, but we look forward to a very special day when this happens in May.

We will also be creating a school Jubilee footpath plotting the different ways that we can/will be Pilgrims of Hope during this special year.



To celebrate and commemorate the Jubilee Year 2025, Pilgrims of Hope, CAFOD commissioned an icon from artist Mulugeta Araya in Ethiopia, for the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Ethiopia was chosen because of the strong tradition of iconography within the country and to demonstrate that this is a global Jubilee - not just something that is happening in England and Wales.

If you are interested to find out more, there is lots of information about the Jubilee on the CAFOD website:

[CAFOD - Catholic international development charity](https://www.cafod.org/)

### Mass Dates (see changes)

There is a slight change to our Mass dates – there will be no Mass to celebrate Candlemas in school next Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January, Mass will take place at St Edward's as usual, and Candlemas will be celebrated on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Our next Mass will be celebrated on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 9 am in the school hall.

Friday March 14<sup>th</sup> Mass - Lent Pray Fast Give

Friday March 28<sup>th</sup> Mass - Lent 3

### **School Choir**

Some of our school choir also sing in St Mary's Parish Church choir - It was lovely to see so many of them singing at Evensong last weekend – well done.

### **Corfe Castle/ Studland – free tickets**

Don't forget you can borrow tickets to allow free entry into Corfe Castle / Studland car park from the office. It might allow for a fun day out over half term.

### **Swanage Green Space Questionnaire**

Did you know that Swanage Town Council manages over 37 hectares of green spaces? This includes parks, gardens, allotments, sports areas, cemeteries, event fields, and a Local Nature Reserve! Swanage Town Council is currently developing a 'Swanage Town Council Greenspace Strategy' and would love to hear from you. Your feedback is invaluable in helping them understand how you use these spaces, what you value most, and how they can improve their management for the future.

Please take a few moments to complete our short questionnaire (it will only take 5 minutes!):

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScUN8lexzvCirrHyBvUK6gLKtAMLV1qOPjvc93jbzltQciv\\_g/viiewform?usp=dialog](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScUN8lexzvCirrHyBvUK6gLKtAMLV1qOPjvc93jbzltQciv_g/viiewform?usp=dialog)

PLEASE NOTE: CLOSING DATE FOR RESPONSES TUESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2025

### **Corfe Sunrise Walk**



### **Big Garden Bird Watch – 24<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> January**



If you would like to take part in this year's birdwatch at home, you can find the details at: [Big Garden Birdwatch](#)

## **Diarrhoea and vomiting**

There have been some cases of D&V in the past few weeks, and we would remind you of the NHS/ Government guidelines and our school policy that children should stay off school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 48 hours. Therefore, if your child is sick or has diarrhoea during the night on a Sunday they should not return to school until Wednesday. Many thanks for your support with this as it really helps prevent the spread of these kinds of bugs – more information can be found at the following website.

[Diarrhoea and vomiting - NHS](#)

## **Parking**

We continue to receive complaints from the builders in the new housing estates, nearby residents regarding driveways being blocked and parking on double-yellow and zig-zag lines; please can we ask that you park in a responsible and courteous manner.

This obviously raises significant safety concerns. Please help us keep our children safe. The road markings are legally enforceable, and they are no stopping, so it is an offence to stop even momentarily on the lines if picking up a child or dropping off – even for early birds!

Photos of anyone parking inappropriately can be sent to Dorset police through their op snap initiative see below.

<https://www.dorset.police.uk/police-forces/dorset-police/areas/campaigns/campaigns/operation-snap/>

Just a reminder that the car park near Days Park (at the end of De Moulham Road by the Football Club) **is free** at school drop-off and pick-up times and no ticket is required.



## News from the classes

### **Reception**

Reception has had a lovely week. We have been thinking about different foods and where they come from. We did some fruit tasting and enjoyed some messy fruit and vegetable printing. We enjoyed some bird watching on Wellie Wednesday as part of the RSPB Bird Watch with our binoculars.



<p><b>Year 1</b></p>	<p>Year 1 has had another busy week. In Maths, we finished our unit on 2D and 3D shapes. We went on a shape hunt around the classroom to see what objects we could find. In Art, we have been making collages and 3D shapes. In Geography, we have continued our work on 'United Kingdom': we had another look at a map of the UK, and we thought more about the capital cities of each country. In Science, we are looking at materials. We used objects around the classroom and described the material.</p>
<p><b>Year 2</b></p>	<div data-bbox="293 411 690 907" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Another busy and fun week in Year 2! We really enjoyed our session with Vicky from the Dogs' Trust and are going to follow <b>Toby's Top Tips</b> when interacting with our canine friends. In RE, we retold the story of the baptism of Jesus including an explanation of why it happened this way. We have continued our work as historians, looking at Scutari data (numbers of soldiers admitted and dying) and made connections between Florence Nightingale's work and the decrease in numbers. We also put our chronological skills to the test and ordered events in her life. In Art, we painted and our teacups for a Japanese tea ceremony and then decorated them with Japanese characters and cherry blossom. They look beautiful and Team 2.6 should be very proud. Well done for all you have achieved this week, Team 2.6! Keep up the great work!</p> <div data-bbox="293 951 1263 1205" data-label="Image"> </div>
<p><b>Year 3</b></p>	<p>Year 3 has had a busy week. We really enjoyed a visit from the Dogs' Trust where we learnt about the protocol when approaching a dog and how to correctly handle them. We finished the session by writing a promise relating to being kind to dogs.</p> <p>In our English lessons this week, we learnt all about writing informal letters. The children then wrote a letter to Marvin the Magician explaining how Poppy's first day at her new boarding school had gone. We have now moved on to writing a synopsis of the story so far.</p> <p>In RE, we learnt all about parables and had a particular focus on 'The Parable of the Sower'. The children then created their own story boards to retell the parable.</p> <p>In PE we have been learning about handball and have even managed to have a few mini matches.</p> <p>Keep up the good work year 3!</p>
<p><b>Year 4</b></p>	<p>Year 4 has had a good week. We've carried on reading our class text, summarising what we've read so far and then making a prediction about what is going to happen next in the story. In maths we've come to the end of our multiplication topic and have started our new topic learning about length and perimeter. In Geography we've come to the end of our Mountains topic, we looked at the different mountains and mountain ranges in the UK as well as the tallest mountains in the world. In Science we've been learning about the different organs in the digestive system and their functions.</p>

<p><b>Year 5</b></p>	<p>Year 5 had a successful week and especially enjoyed their RSPB Birdwatch; we were able to spot many birds. Progress has been made in maths where we continued to improve our understanding of percentages. In Geography, we now fully understand the water cycle and have started to look at the major rivers of the world.</p> <p>Sports News: Well done to the boys' football team from 5&amp;6 who beat St Mark's 6 –2. Sadly, cross country was postponed for Year 4 and 5.</p>
<p><b>Year 6</b></p>	<p>This week, Year 6 has continued learning about adaptation in Science. We read the story 'Moth' by Isabel Thomas focusing on how living things, such as the peppered moth, have adapted to their environment over time. They had great fun camouflaging chameleons around the school, see if you can find any! Pupils had an extremely informative session from the 'Dogs' Trust': they learnt about signals that dogs display to their owners in order to improve the bond between them. Children have created amazing African scenes in art that include animals and traditional pattern.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div>

## St Mary's Stars

Yr R – Kyra and George

Year 1 - Lucas and Rory

Year 2 - Thea and Saoirse

Year 3 - Zach and Scarlett

Year 4 - Dylan and Wren

Year 5 – Max F and Megan

Year 6 – Oakley and Filip

3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> February - National Storytelling Week More details to follow

7<sup>th</sup> February - Mass 9am school hall

14<sup>th</sup> February – Hats on for the Homeless - more details to follow